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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/852,495 05/07/97 RUDDY

D 17957-000110 VB

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HM12/1222

EXAMINER

VANDER VEGT, F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1644

17

DATE MAILED:

12/22/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/852,495

Applicant(s)

Ruddy et al

Examiner

F. Pierre VanderVegt

Group Art Unit
1644



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/26/99 and 9/22/99

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), ~~or thirty days, whichever is longer~~, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 29-48 ~~is/are~~ pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 29-48 ~~is/are~~ rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

DETAILED ACTION

This application is a continuation-in-part of application S.N. 08/724,394, which is a continuation-in-part of application S.N. 08/630,912, which is a continuation-in-part of application S.N. 08/652,265.

Claims 1-28 have been canceled.

Claims 29-48 are currently pending in this application.

1. In view of the amendment filed September 22, 1999, no outstanding rejections are maintained.
2. **The following new ground of rejection was necessitated by Applicant's amendment.**

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

3. Claims 29-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The "extrachromosomal" claimed in claims 29-48 represents a departure from the specification and claims as originally filed. Applicant contends that support for this term can be found at page 7, line 20 of the instant specification. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's position. While the word "extrachromosomal" does appear at that location, its use in the detailed description is not relevant to the subject matter of claims 29-48. As used in the specification, "extrachromosomal" refers to vectors of circular DNA which are not incorporated into the genome of a host cell. By no means could the recitation be construed as pertaining to polynucleotides in the 8 to 100 nucleic acid range as recited in the claims. Accordingly, the recitation of "extrachromosomal" in the claims constitutes new matter and must be deleted.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600, Group 1640 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1640 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The fax phone number for official documents to be entered into the record for Art Unit 1644 is (703)305-3014.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to F. Pierre VanderVegt, whose telephone number is (703)305-6997. The Examiner can normally be reached Tuesday through Friday and even-numbered Mondays (on 1999 365-day calendar) from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm ET. A message may be left on the Examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Ms. Christina Chan can be reached at (703)308-3973. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center 1600 receptionist, whose telephone number is (703)308-0196.



F. Pierre VanderVegt, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600
December 20, 1999



CHRISTINA Y. CHAN
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